

MOUNT VERNON BIKE TRAIL BRIDGE

George Washington Memorial Parkway, spanning Boundary Channel near marina
Washington
District of Columbia

HAER No. DC-44

HAER
DC
WASH,
591-

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service
Department of the Interior
P.O. Box 37127
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I. INTRODUCTION

Location: Adjacent to Little River Inlet Bridge, George Washington Memorial Parkway milepost 5.79; 1.7 miles from Interstate 495; carries multi use trail over Boundary Channel, from Columbia Island to Arlington County, Virginia.

FHwA Structure No. 3300-042T.

Date of Construction: 1987.

Type: Steel girder bridge.

Designer: National Park Service.

Present Owner: National Capital Region, National Park Service.

Present Use: Multi-use trail.

Significance: Built as part of the system of multi-use trails along the GWMP.

Project Information: Documentation of the George Washington Memorial Parkway and Clara Barton Parkway was undertaken as a multi-year project by the Historic American Buildings Survey and the Historic American Engineering Record (HABS/HAER), a combined division of the National Park Service, Robert Kapsch, Chief. The project was sponsored by the Park Roads Program of the National Park Service, John Gingles, Deputy Chief, Engineering and Safety Services Division. The Project Supervisor was Sara Amy Leach, HABS Historian. Bridge reports were prepared by Elizabeth M. Nolin (1988); Michael P. Kucher (University of Delaware, 1993); and Jennifer P. Wentzien (University of Washington, 1994).

HABS Report No. VA-69 prepared by Timothy Davis (University of Texas) provides an overview history of the entire parkway project. Jack E. Boucher and Jet Lowe produced the large-format photographs. The Washington-based summer 1994 documentation team was headed by landscape architect Tim Mackey (Harvard University, Graduate School of Design).

II. DESCRIPTION

The Mount Vernon Bike Trail Bridge spans Boundary Channel immediately adjacent to the Little River Inlet Bridge (HAER No. DC-39). The bridge was built in 1987 to extend multi-use trails to the northern portions of the parkway. The structure is a single span steel girder and floor beam system resting on concrete abutments. The bridge spans 130'. The reinforced concrete deck is 12' wide. Foundations are comprised of spread footings over piles. The aluminum handrail is 4' high. The bridge is designed to carry pedestrian loads only.¹

III. SOURCES

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. Plans for Proposed Project GWMP-331. Microfiche reductions of most original construction drawings are on file at the National Capital Region Park Headquarters, National Park Service, Washington D.C.

U.S. Department of the Interior, Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS), No. VA-69, "George Washington Memorial Parkway," 1994. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress, Washington D.C.

U.S. Department of the Interior, National Park Service. "Structure Inventory and Appraisal Sheet - Structure No. 3300-042T." 6/1/93.

¹National Park Service, "Structural Inventory and Appraisal Sheet - Structure No. 3300-042T," 6/1/93.